

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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ActionNEA
Info

RMR

SS

FROM: DAMASCUS

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 729, SEPTEMBER

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Rec'd:

SEPTEMBER 27, 1957

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REPEATED INFORMATION JTDDA 83, ALEPPA

SENT DEPARTMENT 729, AMMAN, ANKARA, BAGHDAD, BEIRUT, CAIRO, TEL AVIV, LONDON, MOSCOW, PARIS UNNUMBERED

CAIRO 636 TO DEPT, BEIRUT 641 TO DEPT.

SUMMARY TRANSLATION SEPTEMBER 4 SAWT AL-ARAB (PRO-SAUDI)
REPORT OF LETTER EXCHANGE BETWEEN KING SAUD AND PRESIDENT
EISENHOWER.

KING SAUD (A) BITTERLY ATTACKED POLICY PURSUED
BY SECRETARY DULLES IN MIDDLE EAST, IN AQABA AND PARTICULARLY
RE SYRIA B) ASSERTED SYRIAN ARMS PURCHASES FOR SELF-DEFENSE
AND RECENT AGREEMENTS WITH SOVIET UNION PURELY COMMERCIAL
TRANSACTIONS C) AVOWED WEST WOULD LOSE WHATEVER LEFT ITS
PRESTIGE UNLESS SHAMEFUL PROPAGANDA DEPICTING SYRIA AS COM-
MUNIST STATE AND BASE STOPPED D) OPINED HENDERSON SHOULD HAVE
MET WITH PRESIDENT QUWATLI, CABINET MEMBERS AND TOP-RANKING
ARMY OFFICERS TO LEARN TRUTH ABOUT SYRIA E) WARNED AGAINST
MILITARY OR NON-MILITARY ACTION AGAINST SYRIA WHICH WOULD
PRODUCE STRONG REACTION BY ALL ARAB STATES AND PEOPLES
F) SAID SAUDI ARABIA CANNOT REMAIN NEUTRAL IN EVENT ISRAELI
AGGRESSION AGAINST SYRIA G) GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN SYRIA
AND UNITED STATES CAN BE RESTORED IF GOOD WILL PREVAILS.

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER ALLEGEDLY REPLIED A) WOULD TAKE NO
MEASURES WITHOUT CONSULTING GOOD FRIEND SAUD B) HENDERSON
MISSION PURELY FOR ORIENTATION C) UNITED STATES HOPES UNDER-
TAKE EFFORTS RESTORE CALM IN AREA WHERE UNITED STATES AND WEST
HAVE VITAL PETROLEUM INTERESTS.

PAPER ADDED SYRIAN FOREIGN OFFICE SAW LETTERS AND GREATLY
APPRECIATED FIRM ATTITUDE OF SAUD.

MANENT

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